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OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1959



THE RURAL DISTRICT OF ALTON


A N N U A L R E P O R T
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1959

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Council Offices,
Barton End,
Lenten Street,
Alton, Hants.
(Telephone:- ALTON 2263)

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Chairman of the Council A. B. Wright, Esq., J.P.
Vice-Chairman E. H. Lucas, Esq.

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Mrs. H. M. Cumberbatch, J.P.	Countess of Selborne (Died 22.9.59)
Hon. Mrs. V. L. Gilmour, O.B.E.	K. A. Woodward, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

(1) Prior to Mr. Bennett's retirement on 7.4.59:-

Medical Officer of Health	- J. Coutts Milne, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.
Chief Public Health Inspector and Building Surveyor	- A. E. Bennett, C.R.S.I., A.M.Inst.B.E., (Retired on 7.4.59)
Senior Additional Public Health Inspector	- J. H. Johnson, C.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector and Assistant Building Surveyor.	- A. L. Wesley, C.R.S.I., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Clerks	- P. F. Mercer W. de T. Styles (Appointed 1.1.59)
Rodent Operator	- J. W. Debenham

(2) Subsequent to 8.4.59 when Building Byelaws were transferred to the Engineer's Department:-

Medical Officer of Health	- J. Coutts Milne, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H. (Resigned 7.9.59)
	- R. L. Goodey, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Appointed 2.11.59)
Chief Public Health Inspector and Petroleum Officer	- J. H. Johnson, C.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I. (Appointed 8.4.59)
Additional Public Health Inspector	- A. L. Wesley, C.R.S.I., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Clerk	- P. F. Mercer
Rodent Operator	- J. W. Debenham

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ALTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Telephone Number:-
ALTON 2263.

Barton End,
Lenten Street,
Alton, Hants.

To the Chairman and Members of the Alton Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1959 on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District of Alton. This is drafted in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

The estimated population of the Rural area according to the statistics supplied by the Registrar General is 25,360, 150 more than in the previous year.

The incidence of infectious disease, apart from measles, was low; no cases of diphtheria and one confirmed case of poliomyelitis were reported. The scheme for vaccination against poliomyelitis was extended, being available between the ages of 6 months and 25 years.

I am grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their encouragement and help, to Mr. Holden, the Clerk of the Council, to Mr. Johnson, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and to the whole staff of the Public Health Department. I very much appreciate the willing help and co-operation of officers of other departments of the Council. I am indebted to my predecessor, Dr. Coutts Milne, for his help when I took up my appointment in November, 1959.

I should like to record here the loss sustained by the Alton Rural District Council through the death of the Countess of Selborne in September, 1959; she had been a Rural District representative on the 7 (Alton) District Health Sub-Committee for many years.



Medical Officer of Health
ALTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PART I

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ALTON RURAL DISTRICT

The Alton Rural District is situated in North-East Hampshire, bordering on Surrey and Sussex. It is largely agricultural, with arable, dairy and pig farming predominating, some fruit, hops and poultry farming is also carried on. It contains two large military camps at Bordon and Longmoor.

The population estimated for mid-1959 was 25,360. Compared with the figure estimated for mid-1958, which was 25,210, this shows an increase in the year of 150.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

As at 31st December, 1959.

Area, in acres	.. 65,526
Total estimated mid-year Home Population (including military)	.. 25,360
Number of inhabited houses	.. 6,562
Rateable value	.. £285,586
Product of the penny rate 1958-59	.. £1,119
Revised estimated product of penny rate 1959-60.	.. £1,150

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

Number:- 447 (Male - 229 Female - 218)

Rate per 1,000 population:- 17.6

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births:- 4.5

STILLBIRTHS

Number:- 11

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:- 18.0

Total Live and Still Births:- 458

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) - 11

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births - 24.6

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births - 23.4

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births- 50

Neo-natal Mortality Rate -

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births - 17.9

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate -

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births - 17.9

Perinatal Mortality Rate -

Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000
total live and still births - 41.5

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths - NIL

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:- NIL

Comparability Factor is 1.16, so the adjusted Live Birth Rate for this District is 20.4 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS

Deaths from all causes in the area were:- 253

(Composed of 132 males & 121 females)

Death Rate per 1,000 population:- 9.9

Comparability Factor is 1.03, giving an adjusted rate of 10.2.

Crude death rate for England and Wales for 1959 was 11.6 per 1,000 population.

It should be emphasised that where small numbers are involved these rates are not necessarily statistically significant and comparison with other years or other districts may be misleading.

STAFF

Dr. J. Coutts Milne, the Medical Officer of Health, left in September, 1959, to take up appointment as Medical Officer of Health to Farnborough Urban District, Fleet Urban District, and Hartley Wintney Rural District Councils. Dr. Randall Martin acted as Interim Medical Officer of Health until the beginning of November, 1959, when I took my appointment with this Council.

Mr. A. E. Fennett, Chief Public Health Inspector and Building Surveyor since September, 1920, retired in April, 1959, and Mr. J. H. Johnson, his deputy for seventeen years, was then appointed in his place.

The amount of clerical work involved in the local administration of County immunisation schemes at Rural District Council level was increased considerably at the beginning of the year due to a fuller operation of the existing poliomyelitis vaccination scheme and its later extension to embrace a wider range of eligible age groups. Consequently, the Hampshire County Council approved the appointment of Mrs. G. E. Mayo as a part-time assistant from the 27th April, 1959, to undertake all clerical duties relating to their immunisation and vaccination schemes.

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The rate of 17.6 per 1,000 live births for 1959 compares with an average of 17.2 for the previous quinquennium.

The Comparability Factor, which is provided by the Registrar General, when applied to the local rate, enables this to be compared with figures for other areas. The Comparability Factor for this area is 1.16, which gives an adjusted rate of 20.2.

The actual number of live births was 447. 4.5% of these were illegitimate.

Birth Rate (provisional), England and Wales for 1959 was 16.5 per 1,000 population.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

This year additional statistics have been provided concerning Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year). There is a total of 11, eight of which occurred during the first week of life.

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales in 1959 was 22.0 per 1,000 live births. It is of interest to note that in Sweden it is 16.

DEATHS

Deaths from all causes in the area totalled 253. This figure included 132 males and 121 females, and gave a Death Rate of 9.9 per 1,000 total population.

The Comparability Factor is 1.03, giving an adjusted rate of 10.2.

The crude death rate for England and Wales for 1959 was 11.6 per 1,000 population.

CAUSES OF DEATH

Apart from accidents, the main causes of death were diseases of the heart and arteries and various forms of cancer. These, by their very nature, affected those persons aged 50 and over. Little is known concerning the normal degenerative processes of old age but there is general agreement on some measures of prevention of certain forms of heart disease and cancer. There were 48 cases of coronary heart disease in this year's returns. With middle age less exercise is taken and frequently diet is not adjusted to decreased needs. Regular exercise, particularly for people living sedentary lives, and in certain cases alteration in diet may postpone or reduce incidence of certain types of heart disease. Heart disease as a cause of death has increased by one quarter in the country during the last five years.

The association of heavy smoking with cancer of the lungs and bronchi has now been proved beyond doubt. There were 13 cases reported during the year. This particular form of cancer is increasing. Evidence from many parts of the world has been considered by the Medical Research Council. It is no coincidence that one part of the British Isles, Jersey, which has the highest cigarette consumption and lowest priced cigarettes, has the highest rate for cancer of the lung. This is a problem of health education primarily. If adolescents can be dissuaded from commencing smoking and adults from continuing smoking there is no question that the incidence of lung disease will decrease. Unfortunately although encouragement of smoking by high-powered advertising campaigns can be seen everywhere, there is little opportunity to stress its danger. Every day in England and Wales 54 persons die of cancer of the lung.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The incidence of infectious diseases notified in the area, apart from measles, remained low.

MEASLES

In the first six months of the year measles was widespread over all the parishes of the Rural District. In all, during 1959, 536 cases were notified.

WHOOPING COUGH

The number of cases of whooping cough notified during the year was 26. This number has continually declined over the last five years possibly due to the fact that more children are being immunised against whooping cough at the same time as against diphtheria and tetanus with the combined or triple antigen.

SCARLET FEVER

Scarlet fever has declined considerably in its virulence from years ago. It is now generally a relatively mild disease although it can have serious results.

29 cases were reported during the year; 9 in the first quarter, 16 in the second, 3 in the third, and 1 in the fourth. There were 15 boys and 12 girls, together with 2 adults.

Scarlet fever is only one particular kind of disease caused by the streptococcus, other kinds are not notifiable. It is used as an index of streptococcal infection of the community.

POLIOMYELITIS

One confirmed case of poliomyelitis was reported during the year, in Binsted during July. The patient had been vaccinated against poliomyelitis; no virus was found in any of the contacts.

TUBERCULOSIS

Two new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis and 7 of pulmonary tuberculosis were reported during the year, the same number as in 1958. No deaths due to tuberculosis were reported.

Age and Sex Distribution of the Notified Cases

<u>Age</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Meninges & C. N. S.</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
5 - 14	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	-	-	-	1	1
45 - 64	3	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	2	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	7		-		2	

DIPHTHERIA

As in the previous 13 years there were no cases of diphtheria in the area. It is of interest to note that in one parish alone, Wield, in 1932, there were 22 cases. In England and Wales in 1958 there were 80 cases with 8 deaths; incidence was mainly in younger schoolchildren.

OTHER DISEASES

DYSENTERY

There were 5 cases of dysentery notified during the year. It is probable that many cases occur which are not notified and never treated owing to the mild nature of the disease. Some dysentery is now increasing owing to the relatively large numbers of unknown carriers in the population. It is spread by direct or indirect contact, more rarely through food. As with all infections of the bowel, spread is best controlled by strict attention to personal hygiene. All notified cases and contacts are investigated.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

There were 2 cases of puerperal pyrexia notified during the year.

ACUTE PNEUMONIA

There were 4 cases of acute pneumonia notified during the year.

FOOD POISONING

No cases of food poisoning were reported during the year.

PROPHYLACTIC IMMUNISATION SCHEMES

The great success of immunisation schemes is shown by the figures for diphtheria. From 1933-42 there was an annual average of 55,000 cases; as previously mentioned in 1958 there were 80 throughout England and Wales. But it is essential that in order to maintain this state of affairs an adequate level of immunisation should be kept up. This is usually considered as being about 75%. In this district parents of every child are contacted when their child is four months old and again at 5 and 10 years so that the child may be immunised either by their own doctor or at clinics. Owing to the scheme for protection against poliomyelitis which was being carried on at the same time, figures for 1959 are less than in 1958.

The number of children protected is shown in the following table:-

(I) Number of children who completed a course of primary immunisations and who received reinforcing injections

Ages	Diphtheria only		Diphtheria & Whooping Cough		Whooping Cough only		Triple Antigen		Diphtheria & Tetanus	
	Prim	Bstr	Prim	Bstr	Prim	Bstr	Prim	Bstr	Prim	Bstr
Under 1	8	-	23	-	1	-	204	-	1	-
1 - 4	9	2	3	4	1	3	69	2	-	-
5 - 14	18	83	1	11	-	-	4	46	-	2
Totals:-	35	85	27	15	2	3	274	48	1	2

From this table it will be seen that protection against diphtheria was provided for 337 children under 14 with primary courses of injections and for 150 children with booster doses. 233 children under 1 year completed their primary course which means an acceptance rate of 52%.

To assess the extent to which children in this area have been protected, the proportion of children of each age who have received at some time a course of injections against diphtheria as well as the ages at which this course was received must be taken into consideration. The immunisation stage is shown in the following table by (a) age at inoculation, and by (b) age attained:-

(II) Number of children at 31.12.59 who had completed a course of immunisation at any time between 1.1.45 and 31.12.59.					
Age at 31.12.59, i.e., born in year	Under 1 1959	1-4 55-58	5-9 50-54	10-14 45-49	Total under 15 yrs.
Last complete course of injections 1955-59	138	1195	1417	1041	3791
1954 or earlier	-	-	973	2468	3441
Totals:-	138	1195	2390	3509	7232

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

This vaccine is now usually given combined with diphtheria antigen or in the triple antigen which also includes protection against tetanus. In one way or another 303 children were given primary protection against whooping cough and booster doses were given to 66 children.

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

Protection during 1959 was available to all persons between the ages of 6 months and 25 years, to expectant mothers and to certain categories of persons who were at especial risk. At the beginning of 1959 in England and Wales nearly 6½ million people had received two injections and throughout 1959, although no figures are as yet available, the national campaign continued successfully. Figures for this district are given below:-

Period 1st January to 31st December, 1959.		
	Second injections completed	Third injections completed
Children born in the years 1943-59	5,751	2,499
Adults born 1933-42 & special categories.	1,157	489
Expectant mothers.	232	101
Totals:-	7,140	3,089

These figures include persons given injections at their own doctors' surgeries or at public vaccination sessions advertised in the local press and by posters throughout the whole area. All persons who are eligible and who have not been vaccinated should register now.

At the moment it is generally necessary to acquire protection through a course of three injections. However, trials are being carried out with a new oral vaccine in various places, and it is possible that should these trials prove successful oral vaccine may replace that given by injection.

VACCINATION

A total of 458 primary vaccinations was carried out in this area and 60 re-vaccinations. Of these 458 primary vaccinations, 407 were carried out during the first year of life. As there were 447 live births in the area in 1959 and 436 in 1958, this would appear to show that about 91% of children in their first year of life were vaccinated. However, there is constant movement of military families in the Longmoor and Bordon areas and it is probable that a considerable number of children in those areas were born elsewhere. The County estimate for this area is given as 87.9%. In Hampshire 65.6% of 1959 births were vaccinated.

Although smallpox has almost disappeared in England, the few cases which do occur originating from abroad, it is still highly necessary that all children should be vaccinated. It is essential for service with the Armed Forces, and with the increasing possibilities of foreign travel a large number of persons will find it necessary to be vaccinated at some time in their life. The slight risk involved in primary vaccination is considerably less in infancy and for that reason alone it is most desirable for children to be vaccinated during their first twelve months of life.

The following table gives details of the age groups:-

Age at which vaccinated	Primary Vaccinations	Re-Vaccinations
Under 1 year	407	-
1 - 4 years	21	7
5 - 14 years	13	18
15 yrs & over	17	35
Totals:-	458	60

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 47)

No action was called for during the year under this section of the Act. There is, and will be, an ever increasing proportion of old people in the community. Families are decreasing in size and the feeling of family unity tends to be put under considerable strain when there are fewer younger members in the family to help with the elderly and when accommodation may be insufficient to find a place for them in their children's homes.

The Home Help and other welfare services are used to the full in an effort to enable old people to maintain their place in the community. The provision of old people's bungalows could be increased as many old folk are living in houses too large for them to cope with. Accommodation would then be available for larger families in the houses they would vacate. Moreover, many old people live in isolation, their families have left, friends of their own age may have died. Suitable accommodation in many cases would prolong their lives and keep them in the community rather than in an institution. Such old people's bungalows should be part of an ordinary housing estate.

HOUSING

Housing, as with water supplies and sewage, is a matter of environmental hygiene of main concern to public health.

Mr. E. C. A. Shuttleworth, the Housing Manager, has kindly provided the following particulars.

There are 277 families on the waiting list, many of whom occupy "tied" accommodation. Of the 21 parishes, five have more than 10 families requiring re-housing; Whitehill parish has 114, Headley 41, Four Marks and Bentley 22 each, and Medstead 11. Of these 277 families, 93 live in rooms or with relatives, 11 live in caravans. Erie Camp, Headley Down, is used as a halfway camp from which suitable families eventually will be offered other accommodation. The rents are low and this housing site fulfils a useful purpose.

CARAVANS

There are nine licensed permanent caravan sites in the area. It is generally agreed that in order to ensure the maintenance of at least minimum standards of public health with adequate provision for water supply, sanitation and refuse disposal, most caravans are best situated in a camp. Caravans meet a need; some "travellers", who, despite their name, remain permanently in the district, prefer a caravan to a house. Even the best proprietary caravan must be considered as inferior to a house when the question of young children is introduced. The standard of hygiene on some caravan sites still leaves much to be desired. A considerable improvement is expected in the coming year when one of the largest sites is being re-organised. A Bill is before Parliament which, if passed, will enable a greater control to be exercised over caravans and thereby fill a gap in Public Health legislation.

WATER SUPPLIES

Main water supplies in the area are provided by the Mid-Wessex Water Company and the Wey Valley Water Company; military camps have their own wells; Alton UDC supplies a few properties in Neatham.

Throughout England and Wales 90% of rural communities have piped water, the provision of such supply ranks only second to the provision of suitable housing in the needs of a rural community.

One complaint about water supply during the year was made at the end of a long, dry summer. The supply was derived from a well in the area and "small animals" were found coming from the tap. These turned out to be "fresh water shrimps", perfectly harmless but most disconcerting. Only one household was affected and the matter was soon cleared up.

Further information regarding water supplies in this district will be found in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths in the area.

ACCIDENTS

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

During 1958 15 people were killed every day in England and Wales on the roads. Twenty times more people die from such accidents than die from poliomyelitis. In this area last year there were 9 deaths on the roads. No returns are immediately available for the number of injuries in the area, although over Hampshire as a whole the injury rate increased 12% in 1959. Apart from a higher standard of driving care, the teaching of "road sense" to children, "road-worthiness" tests for cars, improvements in lighting and footpath provision, are obvious safety factors. Some Councils have a Road Safety Committee.

ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME

The majority of such accidents concern young children and persons over 65. These two groups constitute approximately 20% of the population. Every year more than 6,000 people die of accidents in the home. Burns and scalds are probably the greatest danger to young children and the frequency of scars due to these is very evident at school medical inspections. It is not generally known but it is an offence according to the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, to have an unguarded fire in any house causing injury to children under the age of 12. Drip feed oil heaters are another source of danger. Cotton nightdresses are perhaps one of the most dangerous garments for children; they are most inflammable and are easily set alight if they are blown against an unguarded fire. We had one such case in Alton last year.

For old persons, falls are another hazard. Uneven floors, loose steps, lack of adequate lighting are contributory causes. In the Alton area during 1959, 13 such cases required hospital attention.

The Secretary of the Alton General Hospital, Mr. D. W. Poole, has kindly supplied me with information concerning patients from the town and the surrounding area who attended the Casualty Department during 1959 as a result of home accidents.

The following table shows the figures classified by age, sex and type of accident:-

HOME ACCIDENTS - JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1959.

Approximate percentage of population at age groups.	Age	Cuts		Burns and Scalds		Falls		Miscellaneous		Total
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
8	0-4	7	4	11	4	15	12	18	6	77
15	5-14	9	7	8	9	7	3	16	8	67
66	15-64	10	15	5	17	10	18	13	29	117
11	65+	-	-	-	3	1	12	1	5	22
TOTALS:-		26	26	24	33	33	45	48	48	283
		52		57		78		96		

It is noteworthy that burns and scalds in children aged 4 and under (approximately 8% of the population) accounted for over a quarter of such accidents in all age groups. In that 0-4 age group under "miscellaneous" are included a child of 2 who swallowed twenty aspirin tablets, a child of 2½ who swallowed phenobarbitone tablets, a child of 19 months who chewed razor blades, and a child of 1 year who was found drinking a strong proprietary bleach.

The method of prevention is obvious in such cases. Many home accidents are preventable; with foresight, improvement in housing design and increased care the number of home accidents at all ages could be reduced considerably.

FACTORIES ACTS

Information concerning factories will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, details being supplied as required by the Minister of Health.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Further improvement in the general health of the community is now more than ever dependent on the inculcation of an attitude of mind. Information must be given to the public as to facilities that are available for protection against disease and education in ways of living and in healthy habits of life is one of the functions of the public health department.

Health Education in a rural district presents many problems. The Health Visitor is, of course, the main means of communication with mothers and young children, either through home visits or at the local clinics. Posters are distributed for display on parish notice boards throughout the year concerning food hygiene, the prevention of the fly nuisance, the desirability of obtaining protection against poliomyelitis and similar subjects of public interest. Advertisements in the local press and posters give information about public sessions for poliomyelitis vaccination.

In Hampshire talks in schools are given to children of school-leaving age on matters of Health Education and a Health Education Officer has now been appointed who will be available in this area.

The basis of future improvement in the health standards of the community lies in the field of Health Education. This does not consist merely in the provision of information to the public but in persuading the individual to accept changes in his method of living, in fact to put into practice principles of which he frequently is well aware.

PROVISION OF GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA

Since 1954 there has been in the County a scheme of devolution to District Health Sub-Committees of certain functions of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Membership of the No. 7 (Alton) District Health Sub-Committee is as follows:-

Chairman of Sub-Committee ... Mrs. C. P. Thomson-Glover
Vice-Chairman Mrs. C. Harckham.

MEMBERS

- Alton Rural District Council Representatives -

Lady Bonham-Carter	Viscountess Hampden
Col. J. D'Arcy Champney	Mrs. N. S. Ryder
Mrs. H. M. Cumberbatch,	J.P. Countess of Selborne (Died 22.9.59)

- Alton Urban District Council Representatives -

Col. J. P. Archer-Shee,	Mrs. C. Harckham
M.C.	

- Nursing Association Representatives -

Mrs. G. Coke (Bentley)
Mrs. I. M. Durham (Grayshott)

- Special Nominee -

The Hon. Mrs. V. L. Gilmour,
O.B.E. (Medstead)

- British Medical Association -

Alan F. Goode, Esq., F.R.C.S.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The Ambulance Service is conducted by the Hampshire County Council who supply monthly details of journeys to the Public Health Committee. The ambulances for the area are stationed at Alton.

Applications for the use of ambulances are made to:-

The Aldershot Ambulance Station,
(Telephone:- Aldershot 2244)

CHILD WELFARE

Child Welfare Centres are situated throughout the District at the following places and on the dates and times given.

These centres are for the attendance of mothers and babies, and children under five. Activities at the clinics, at which a doctor and nurse attend, include advice on feeding and child management, immunisation, weighing and the distribution of welfare foods and certain medicaments.

Centres for children under the age of 5 years are available as follows:-

<u>Centre</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Day of clinic per month</u>	<u>Time</u>
Alton	Assembly Rooms	Every Tuesday	2-4 p.m.
Bentley	Memorial Hall	3rd Wednesday	2-4 p.m.
Binsted	Institute	4th Wednesday	2-4 p.m.
Bordon	Military Welfare Centre	Every Thursday	2-4 p.m.
Four Marks	Institute	1st and 3rd Wednesdays	2-4 p.m.
Froyle	Methodist Hall	1st Friday	11 a.m. -12 noon.
Grayshott	Village Hall	1st and 3rd Fridays	2-4 p.m.
Headley	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Fridays	2-4 p.m.
Kingsley	Cadet Hut	3rd Friday	3-4 p.m.
Longmoor	Military Welfare Centre	2nd and 4th Mondays	2-4 p.m.
Oakhanger	Village Hall	3rd Friday	2.15- 2.45 p.m.
Selborne	Village Hall	1st Wednesday	2-4 p.m.
Whitehill	Congregational Church Hall	2nd and 4th Thursdays	2-4 p.m.

NATIONAL WELFARE FOODS

National Welfare Foods are distributed from the following centres in the Alton Rural District:-

<u>Centre</u>	<u>Time of Opening</u>
BENTLEY: Bentley Post Office, London Road.	Business hours.
BENTLEY: Child Welfare Centre, Memorial Hall.	3rd Wednesday in month from 2 p.m.
BINSTED: Child Welfare Centre, The Institute.	4th Wednesday in month from 2 p.m.
BORDON: Child Welfare Centre, Medical Inspection Room, The Barracks.	Every Thursday from 2 p.m.
EAST TISTED: Mr. Budd, The Stores.	Business hours.
FARRINGTON: Messrs. W. & L. Burr, Stores & Post Office.	Business hours.
FOUR MARKS: Mr. Tomlinson, The Post Office.	Business hours.
FROYLE: Child Welfare Centre, Methodist Hall.	1st Friday in month from 11 a.m.
GRAYSHOTT: Child Welfare Centre, Village Hall.	1st & 3rd Fridays in month from 2.30 p.m.
HEADLEY: Child Welfare Centre, Village Hall.	2nd & 4th Fridays in month from 2 p.m.
KINGSLEY: Child Welfare Centre, Cadet Hut.	3rd Friday in month from 3 p.m.
LASHAM: Mrs. Collins, The Post Office.	Business hours.
LINDFORD: Mr. Pears, Cross Road Store.	Business hours.
LONGMOOR: Child Welfare Centre, Medical Inspection Room, The Barracks.	2nd & 4th Mondays in month from 2.30 p.m.
LOWER FROYLE: Messrs. B. Wheatley & Sons, Froyle Stores.	Business hours.
MEDSTEAD: Women's Institute.	4th Monday in month from 2.30-4.0 p.m.
OAKHANGER: Child Welfare Centre, Village Hall.	3rd Friday in month from 2.15-2.45 p.m.
ROPLEY: Mrs. Knowles, Coffee Rooms.	1st Friday in month from 2-4 p.m.
SELBORNE: Child Welfare Centre, Village Hall.	1st Wednesday in month from 2 p.m.
WEST TISTED: Mr. Bayley, Post Office Stores.	Business hours.
WHITERHILL: Child Welfare Centre, Congregational Church Hall.	2nd & 4th Thursdays in month from 2 p.m.
WIELD: Mrs. G. J. Baker, 2 Manor Farm Cottages, Upper Wield.	By arrangement.

HEALTH VISITING

The following are the Health Visitors and the areas which they serve:-

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>District</u>
Mrs. J. E. Morrow, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.	13 Whitedown, Alton. (Phone: Alton 2097)	Alton, Chawton, Farringdon.
Miss A. M. Knapp, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. (Retired 31.12.59)	161a London Road, Holybourne. (Phone: Alton 2829)	Bentley, Binsted, Frith End, Froyle, Headley, Headley Down, Holybourne, Kingsley, Lindford, East & West Worldham, Rowledge.
Miss V. Gawthorp, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.	Cherry Croft, Liphook Road, Headley, Bordon. (Phone: Headley Down 3322)	East Tisted, Grayshott.
Miss I. K. Brown, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.	No. 1 Bungalow, Infant Welfare Centre, Bordon. (Phone: Bordon 369)	Bordon, Hollywater, Longmoor, Standford, Whitehill.
Miss E. M. May, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.	22 Gosling's Croft, Selborne. (Phone: Selborne 219)	Blackmoor, Newton Valence, Oakhanger, Selborne.
Miss M. C. Tate, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.	Spadgers, Gascoigne Lane, Ropley. (Phone: Ropley 3237)	Medstead, Ropley, West Tisted.
Miss D. McKenzie, S.R.N., S.M.B(1), H.V.	c/o Hampshire County Council Health Centre, Bramblys Grange, Basingstoke. (Phone: Basingstoke 1878)	Bentworth, Lasham, Shalden, Wield.

HOME HELP SERVICE

A scheme of domestic help is available. The helpers are experienced women carefully chosen for their suitability for the work. They will run the home carefully, their job being to take over the housewife's work.

Home Helps are available for the following types of cases:- when the housewife is sick or has to have an operation; when a new baby is expected; when several members of a household are ill at one time; and to give help to the elderly and infirm.

Application for a Home Help, accompanied by a medical certificate, should be made to the District Organiser. The charge depends on the hours worked and the income of the family after certain allowances have been made.

Division VI includes the Rural District of Alton and the Divisional Organiser, Mrs. R. Holmes, has her office at the Town Hall, Petersfield, (Telephone No:- Petersfield 771/773 - Ext. 18), to whom application should be made for a Home Help.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological examinations of clinical matter (sputum, swabs etc.) and of water, milk and foodstuffs are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, (Telephone Number:- Winchester 3807).

Chemical analyses of water, sewage, milk and other samples are carried out by arrangement with the Public Analyst, Trafalgar Place, Clive Road, Portsmouth, (Telephone Number:- Portsmouth 23641).

Thanks are expressed to the Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service and the Public Analyst, Portsmouth, for their ready advice and assistance granted during the year.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Clinics are held every Thursday at Alton General Hospital.

The medical officers attending the Alton clinics at the end of the year were as follows:-

1st Thursday	-	Dr. W. S. Larcombe.
2nd Thursday	-	Dr. T. C. Wilson.
3rd Thursday	-	Dr. Helen E. Larcombe.
4th Thursday	-	Mr. A. F. Goode.

Ante-natal relaxation classes are held at the Military Families Health Centre, Bordon, on Tuesday afternoons.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Clinics are held as follows:-

Orthopaedic	-	Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton.
Ear, nose & throat	-	Alton General Hospital.
Dental	-	At Schools.
Ophthalmic & orthoptic	-	Alton General Hospital.
Child guidance	-	Health Centre, Winchester.
Speech therapy	-	Alton General Hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS

Chest clinics are held at Aldershot, Basingstoke, and Winchester, whilst sanatoria are available at Bishopstoke, Chandler's Ford, and Liphook.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Clinics are held at Aldershot and Winchester.

AREA WELFARE OFFICER

The Area Welfare Officer is:-

Mr. A. C. Wood,
14 King George Avenue,
Petersfield.

(Telephone Number:- Petersfield 1199
- mornings only)

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING

Relief duties to cover holidays, sickness, or emergency calls undertaken by neighbouring nurse-midwives.

District served.	Nurse.	Service given.
Alton Chawton Farringdon	Mrs. M. A. Staples, S.R.N., S.C.M. 1 Pond Cottages, Chawton. (Tele: Alton 2379)	Midwifery & general nursing.
Bentley Binsted E. & W. Worldham Froyle Holybourne	Mrs. K. V. Hutton, S.E.A.N., S.C.M. 10 Babs Field, Bentley. (Tele: Bentley 3158)	Midwifery & general nursing.
Barford Bramshott Chase Grayshott Headley Common Headley Down (part) Hearn	Miss M. A. Cuff, S.E.A.N., S.C.M. Nurse's Cottage, School Rd, Grayshott. (Tele: Hindhead 409)	Midwifery & general nursing.
Lindford Hollywater Headley Headley Down (part) Deadwater Standford Arford Passfield	Mrs. D. E. Stephens, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Resigned 18.1.59) Mrs. R. P. Bames, S.R.N., S.C.M. Lurganboy, Stonehill Road, Headley Down. (Tele: Headley Down 2170) (Appointed 1.2.59)	Midwifery & general nursing.
Beech Bentworth Lasham Medstead Shalden Wield	Miss V. L. Lock, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. 3 Green Stile, Medstead. (Tele: Medstead 2100)	Midwifery & general nursing.
East & West Tisted Four Marks Ropley	Mrs. J. M. Cooper, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. Cert. Cissbury, Redhill, Four Marks. (Tele: Medstead 2278) (Appointed 28.7.59)	Midwifery & general nursing & health visiting.
Selborne Blackmoor Drift Road Oakhanger Newton Valence Pimpshott Longmoor Camp	Miss E. M. May, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. Cert. 22 Gosling's Croft, Selborne. (Tele: Selborne 219)	Midwifery & general nursing & health visiting.
Bordon Camp Bordon Village Whitehill Kingsley Hogmoor Road Fir Grove Shortheath Common	Miss E. P. Goudie, S.R.N., S.C.M. No. 2 Bungalow, Infant Welfare Centre, Bordon Camp. (Tele: Bordon 292) (Appointed 6.5.59)	Midwifery & general nursing.

VITAL STATISTICS

B I R T H S

(Table 1)

Total Population		1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
		25,280	25,710	25,750	25,210	25,360
Live Births Legitimate	Male	191	217	214	200	221
	Female	198	202	187	205	206
	Total	389	419	401	405	427
Live Births Illegitimate	Male	14	14	15	20	8
	Female	13	18	14	11	12
	Total	27	32	29	31	20
Total Live Births		416	451	430	436	447
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Population		16.5	17.5	16.7	17.3	17.6
England and Wales		15.0	15.7	16.1	16.4	16.5

Still Births Legitimate	Male	3	3	6	2	3
	Female	5	5	2	4	7
Total		8	8	8	6	10
Still Births Illegitimate	Male	0	0	0	1	0
	Female	0	1	0	0	1
	Total	0	1	0	1	1
Total Still Births		8	9	8	7	11
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Births (Live & Still)		18.9	19.6	18.2	15.8	18.0
Total Live & Still Births		424	460	438	443	458

Comparability Factor is 1.16, so the adjusted Live Birth Rate for this District is 20.4, which is the figure for comparative purposes with England and Wales.

VITAL STATISTICS

(Table 2)

D E A T H S

From all causes		1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
	Male	133	120	131	164	132
	Female	106	102	98	154	121
	Totals	239	222	229	318	253
Death Rate per 1,000 total population		9.5	8.6	8.8	12.6	9.9
Average for England and Wales total population		11.7	11.7	11.5	11.7	11.6

The Death Rate Comparability Factor for this District is 1.03, allowance thus being made for local differences in the sex and age distribution of the population.

The adjusted Death Rate for this area is, therefore, 10.2.

VITAL STATISTICS

(Table 3)

I N F A N T M O R T A L I T Y

Deaths under 1 year of age. (legitimate)		1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
	Male	6	7	4	5	6
	Female	3	6	1	4	4
Deaths under 1 year of age. (illegitimate)						
	Male	0	0	0	2	1
	Female	0	0	0	0	0
Totals:-		9	13	5	11	11
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	Total	21.6	28.8	11.6	25.2	24.6
	Legitimate	No figures available			20.6	23.4
	Illegitimate	No figures available			64.5	50.0
England & Wales Rate per 1,000 live births		24.9	23.8	23.0	22.5	22.0

N E O - N A T A L M O R T A L I T Y

		1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Number of Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age. (legitimate)	Male	3	4	2	5	4
	Female	1	4	1	2	3
	Totals	4	8	3	7	7
(illegitimate)	Male	No figures available			2	1
	Female	No figures available			0	0
	Totals	No figures available			2	1

Percentage of illegitimate live births - 4.5%
 Maternal deaths including abortion - NIL
 Maternal Mortality Rate - NIL

Attention is drawn to the fact that these rates for the Rural District, owing to the small numbers involved, are not statistically significant and rate comparisons with other areas or earlier years is misleading.

(Table 4)

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

Disease		Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ..	0	0	0
2.	Tuberculosis, other ..	0	0	0
3.	Syphilitic disease ..	0	0	0
4.	Diphtheria ..	0	0	0
5.	Whooping Cough ..	0	0	0
6.	Meningococcal infections ..	0	0	0
7.	Acute poliomyelitis ..	0	0	0
8.	Measles ..	0	0	0
9.	Other infective & parasitic diseases ..	1	0	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	2	1	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	11	2	13
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	0	1	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	0	2	2
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms ..	10	13	23
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ..	1	0	1
16.	Diabetes ..	1	4	5
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	11	19	30
18.	Coronary disease, angina ..	26	22	48
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ..	3	3	6
20.	Other heart diseases ..	10	24	34
21.	Other circulatory disease ..	6	5	11
22.	Influenza ..	2	0	2
23.	Pneumonia ..	8	7	15
24.	Bronchitis ..	6	2	8
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ..	1	0	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	1	1	2
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	0	0	0
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	2	0	2
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate ..	3	0	3
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ..	0	0	0
31.	Congenital malformations ..	0	1	1
32.	Other defined & ill-defined diseases ..	14	12	26
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ..	8	1	9
34.	All other accidents ..	3	1	4
35.	Suicide ..	2	0	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war ..	0	0	0
All causes		132	121	253

(Table 5) THE SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS

Age	Male	Female
Under 1 year	7	4
1 - 9 years	4	2
10 - 19 years	2	0
20 - 29 years	4	1
30 - 39 years	2	0
40 - 49 years	7	4
50 - 59 years	17	4
60 - 69 years	27	13
70 - 79 years	32	41
80 - 89 years	28	44
90 - 99 years	2	8
	132	121
Total:-	253	

(Table 6) PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is an analysis of the infectious diseases which were notified during the year, with the five preceding years for comparison:-

Disease	Totals for					
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Scarlet Fever	11	6	17	12	6	29
Whooping Cough	75	74	43	37	36	26
Acute poliomyelitis) (paralytic)	0	1	0	1	4	2 [@]
Acute poliomyelitis) (non-paralytic)						
Measles	144	432	47	235	101	536
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute pneumonia	26	8	4	10	20	4
Dysentery	0	1	1	3	6	5
Typhoid & para- typhoid fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	3	1	1	0
Meningococcal infection	1	0	0	0	1	0
Meningitis, unspecified	1	0	0	0	0	0
Food poisoning	0	6	1	2	1	0
Puerperal pyrexia	1	2	3	2	1	2
Ophthalmia neonatorum	0	1	0	1	2	0
Totals:-	259	531	119	304	179	604

@ One of these cases was subsequently not confirmed as being poliomyelitis.

THE RURAL DISTRICT OF ALTON

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR

1959

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE AREA

ALTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Telephone Number:-
ALTON 2263.

Barton End,
Lenten Street,
Alton, Hants.

To the Chairman and Members of the Alton Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit herewith my Report for the year 1959 on the Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

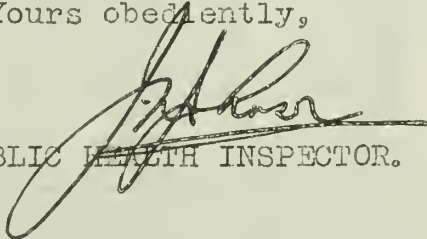
The year has been one of slow but steady progress, except in the field of housing, where work on the slum clearance programme accelerated and due to the Council's generous policies on improvement grants and loans, the standard of housing accommodation is being rapidly improved.

There are, however, still a few pockets of development without piped water supplies, unfortunately so situated that main extensions are uneconomic.

The year 1959 was notable in that Mr. A. E. Bennett, who had been Chief Public Health Inspector and Building Surveyor to the Council since 1920, retired in April and I, who had been his assistant since 1942, was appointed Chief Public Health Inspector.

This, therefore, is my first Annual Report and I wish to express my gratitude to my colleagues, Mr. Wesley and Mr. Mercer, for their help and assistance at all times.

Yours obediently,


CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

PART II

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

All built-up areas of the District have piped main supplies from the Wey Valley Water Company and the Mid-Wessex Water Company. Supplies have been satisfactory throughout the year, both in regard to quantity and to quality.

Samples from the main supplies are regularly taken for analysis by the Water Undertakers themselves, and copies of analysts' reports are submitted to the Council.

Other domestic supplies in the District are from wells, springs and underground rain water storage tanks.

The following table indicates the number of properties and approximate population served by main water:-

Parish	Area (acres)	Number of Houses	No. of houses supplies	Estimated population supplied
Bentley	2,483	262	261	780
Bentworth	3,763	199	180	540
Binsted	7,799	534	379	1,140
Chawton	2,194	152	104	310
East Tisted	2,621	74	71	200
Farringdon	2,105	182	146	430
Four Marks	1,502	507	460	1,380
Froyle	4,641	216	216	640
Grayshott	901	481	476	1,430
Headley	4,771	896	884	2,650
Kingsley	1,540	148	135	400
Lasham	1,797	47	44	130
Medstead	2,809	511	347	1,040
Newton Valence	2,069	91	40	120
Ropley	3,704	438	312	930
Selborne	4,830	376	275	820
Shalden	2,160	139	119	340
West Tisted	2,356	65	31	90
Whitehill	5,509	1,058	873	2,620
Wield	2,104	74	62	180
Worldham	3,868	112	103	310
TOTALS:-	65,526	6,562	5,518	16,480

N.B. The above figures apply to private dwellings only and do not include any living accommodation in the Bordon and Longmoor Military Camps which have their own piped water supplies.

As aforesaid all built-up areas have piped main supplies but there still remain isolated pockets of development which rely upon other sources of water supply. Unfortunately, for economic reasons, it has not so far been found possible to extend the mains to these areas.

Samples of water for analysis were taken during the year as follows:-

(a) For bacteriological analysis	...	14
(b) For chemical analysis	...	1
<u>Results:-</u> Satisfactory	...	6 + 1 chemical
Unsatisfactory	...	8

With regard to the unsatisfactory samples, these were from shallow wells at two properties, one at Hollywater, Whitehill, and the other at South Hay, Binsted.

A statutory notice to provide a satisfactory supply was served in respect of the property at Hollywater and the cottage was duly connected to the mains.

With regard to the property at South Hay, a main supply not being available, it was necessary to trace and remove the source of contamination. The existing chemical toilet and sink soakaway were done away with and the soakage area chlorinated. A new septic tank drainage system was installed. The well top was removed and a new top and cover with concrete surround installed. The well was pumped out repeatedly over a long period, samples for analysis being taken during operations until three consecutive samples taken at weekly periods showed the supply satisfactory.

SEWERAGE

Work on the extension of main sewers to Grayshott continued during the year, connection to the treatment works at Lindford being via the Headley system.

Areas of the District already sewered are as follows:-

- (a) Part of Bentley, the effluent being treated by broad land irrigation.
- (b) The Holt Pound area of Binsted, with discharge into the sewers of the Farnham Urban District Council.
- (c) Lindford, Bordon and Whitehill in the Parish of Whitehill, together with the Bordon Military Camp, with discharge into the Council's own treatment works at Lindford.
- (d) Arford and Headley Down in the Parish of Headley, also discharging into the Lindford treatment works.
- (e) Part of the Parish of Grayshott in the areas where sewers became available during the general extension to the Parish.

Generally the larger Council housing estates where sewers are not available are provided with their own treatment plants.

DOMESTIC DRAINAGE

During the year connections to the Council's sewers continued steadily. Where a system with a septic tank or cesspool is connected to a sewer, the tank is emptied and filled with soil or rubble after perforating the base of the tank to allow the escape of subsoil water.

In areas not provided with sewers, the provision of new septic tank systems also continued steadily.

Connections to sewers during the year were as follows:-

<u>Area</u>	<u>Connections during 1959</u>	<u>Total connections to date</u>	
		<u>Private</u>	<u>Council Houses</u>
Holt Pound	1	67	0
Whitehill	24	455	292
Headley	78	227	108
Grayshott	93	112	16
TOTALS:-	196	861	416

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There was no significant change in the general situation during the year.

There were 14 new licences issued; 17 caravans left the District. The position at the end of the year was:-

Licensed Parks:- 9 licences in force for 60 dwellings
& 1 licence for 50 holiday caravans.

Individual Sites:- 46 licences in force for 46 dwellings.

Four of the parks, licensed for 23 dwellings, are occupied by the "traveller" type of family who occupy the converted 'bus type of dwelling.

One park at present licensed for 17 caravans has Planning permission for 56 and the owner proposes to continue the development by stages. This park, however, is in the nature of a show-piece, each plot having its own brickbuilt bathroom and water closet, connected to the Council's sewer.

Frequent visits are made to all sites occupied by caravans, more attention being paid to the "encampments" occupied by the "travellers". In several cases where large families were concerned, the occupiers were prevailed upon either to provide larger vans or to provide additional vans for sleeping purposes only.

There are no particular public health problems in connection with moveable dwellings, except in connection with those occupied by the "traveller" type, which need fairly constant supervision.

A good proportion of the licences issued are for temporary occupation during the erection of dwellings on the particular site, this mainly accounting for the number of caravans leaving the District.

The individual sites are well scattered throughout the District whilst the parks (sites occupied by more than one moveable dwelling) are practically all in the parish of Whitehill.

ACCOMMODATION FOR HOP-PICKERS

Control over accommodation for hop-pickers provided by farmers is by means of Byelaws made by the Council under Section 270 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

These Byelaws contain provisions relating to repair, cleanliness, overcrowding, cooking and sanitary facilities, water supply etc. and during the picking season regular visits were made to ensure compliance with these Byelaws. Only minor infringements were noted, dealt with immediately by informal action.

The number of huts in use and of pickers employed has declined enormously since the installation of hop-picking machines which are operated mainly by local labour.

There were 11 machines in use during the season and only 4 hutted encampments and 1 tented encampment were in use.

FACTORIES

Under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, the District Council is the authority responsible for enforcing the provisions regarding sanitary accommodation in all factories and, in addition, the provisions with respect to cleanliness, overcrowding, workroom temperature and ventilation, and floor drainage in all factories where mechanical power is not used.

The following particulars are those prescribed on the administration of the above Act:-

PART I OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecut- ed (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	3	1	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	54	30	3	0
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	120	62	0	0

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H. M. Inspector (4)	By H. M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	0	0	1	0
Overcrowding (S.2)	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	0	1	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	0	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork.	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:-	5	4	0	2	0

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Toy Manufacturers (making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper)	11	0	0	0	0	0

Of the above registered factories, these mainly consist of garages (motor vehicle repairs) - 23, and builders' yards (joinery) - 13. There is 1 factory engaged on fibre glass fabrications, 2 concrete block works, 1 light engineering factory, 2 blouse factories, 1 laundry, 1 brickworks and 1 toy factory.

There is only 1 factory, the fibre glass works, employing over 20 persons.

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Under Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937 certain factories need to be certified by the Council as being provided with such means of escape in case of fire for the persons employed therein as may reasonably be required in the circumstances of each case.

Whether or not a factory needs such certification depends on the number of employees or the storage or use of highly inflammable materials.

Six premises in the District were inspected particularly for this purpose and four were found to need such certificates in view of the use of highly inflammable materials.

Detailed inspections were made in conjunction with the Fire Prevention Officer of the Hampshire Fire Brigade and the necessary certificates were duly issued after completion of various works recommended by the Fire Prevention Officer.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

There are no slaughterhouses in the District. The slaughterhouse in the Alton Urban District which was at one time run as a joint slaughterhouse by the Urban and Rural District Councils, subsequently reverting to private control, is now used only on occasion. It would appear that the other private slaughterhouses in the Urban area, together with the facilities in surrounding districts, are sufficient for the needs of the Rural District.

The following foodstuffs were inspected in shops and stores and surrendered for condemnation:-

Corned Beef	- 59 tins (327 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs)
Meat	- 10 tins (28 lbs)
Ham	- 21 tins (229 lbs)
Fish	- 2 tins (2 lbs)
Fruit	- 1 tin (30 ozs)
Bacon	- 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Fish	- 42 lbs.
Figs	- 11 lbs.

MILK

All milk retailed in the District is now pasteurised, sterilised or tuberculin tested. The retail sale of milk is controlled by licences and the following shows details of such licences granted by the Council:-

Pasteurised

Pasteurising licences	... 0
Dealers' licences	... 4
Supplementary licences	... 7

Sterilised

Sterilisers' licences	... 0
Supplementary licences	... 4

Tuberculin Tested

Dealers' licences	... 3
Supplementary licences	... 5

23 samples of milk were taken and submitted for examination for efficiency of pasteurisation.

All the samples were found satisfactory.

There are no ice cream manufacturers in the District and no clean food organisation exists.

39 premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of ice cream. These are all village stores retailing pre-packed ice cream, kept in refrigerators.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

These Regulations contain provisions in respect of the hygienic handling of food and the construction and maintenance of premises where food is handled. A memorandum on the provisions of the Regulations has been circulated to the occupiers of all food premises in the District and routine inspections have been made. Generally speaking all premises comply with the requirements of the Regulations except in minor respects and full compliance was obtained by informal action.

The number and type of food premises in the area are as follows:-

Bakehouses	4
Baker's shops	1
Butchers	14
Cafes	15
Chemists	3
Clubs and institutions	17
Confectioners	5
Fishmongers	2
Food warehouses	1
General stores	70
Greengrocers	3
Hotels	2
Public houses	45
School kitchens	23
Wine merchants	2
Dairies	3
Sweet factory	1
Mobile canteen	1

All the above are retail or wholesale premises. There are no food manufacturers.

No occasions arose for formal action against the occupiers of food premises and there were no prosecutions.

FOOD SAMPLING

Sampling of food for adulteration is carried out by the Hampshire County Council (as the Food and Drug Authority) and I am indebted to Mr. J. S. Preston, M.I.W.M.A., Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, for the following information which he has supplied:-

During the year ended the 31st December, 1959, 55 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the area of the Alton Rural District Council.

Milk Samples

37 samples of milk, including six of Channel Islands, were obtained and in only one case was an adverse report received. This affected a bottle of pasteurised milk from a Dairy situated outside the County, which proved to contain a very slight amount of added water of the order of one per cent. In the circumstances the result was referred to the Authority in whose area the Dairy is situated, and subsequent checks by this Authority and in the County, proved to be satisfactory. It was thought that the presence of water might have been due to insufficient drainage of the pasteurising plant before the first of the milk was passed through it.

Miscellaneous Articles

Of 18 samples of articles other than milk, four were unsatisfactory as follows:-

- (i) Minced Beef - incorrect label.
- (ii) Minced Beef with Gravy - incorrect label.

These samples were obtained from different retailers but were produced by the same company. The first sample was reported to contain insufficient meat to warrant the description "Minced Beef", whilst in the second case, the wording of the label, which had been modified by the company in respect of the same product, was regarded as satisfactory, but objection was taken to the form of the additional words "With gravy", these not being readily discernible. These matters were raised with the company responsible, who eventually agreed to make a further revision of the label applied to their product in order to overcome the objections.

- (iii) Double Cream - deficient of fat.
- (iv) Double Cream - deficient of fat.

These two samples were from different producers and were in cartons bearing the description "Double Cream", which requires a minimum of 48 per cent of fat. Both articles contained sufficient fat to enable them to be sold as "cream", and inquiries disclosed that the vendors had unwittingly used cartons without appreciating the higher fat content denoted by the description "Double Cream". In view of what was accepted as a genuine misunderstanding in each case, however, further action was not taken, but the position was made known to the vendors. Appropriate cartons were immediately obtained by these persons, and there has not since been any further cause for complaint.

General

It will doubtless be appreciated that many products sold within the Alton Rural District are subjected to checks in other areas. This remark applies particularly to pre-packed articles, and in certain cases to milk received from Dairies outside the immediate locality.

RODENT CONTROL

Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, the primary obligation is upon the Council to ensure that so far as it is practicable, its area is kept free from rats and mice, although it does not relieve the owners or occupiers of premises of their responsibility for the actual destruction of rats and mice.

In accordance with the above, the Council's Rodent Operator makes regular routine inspections of all agricultural and commercial property, drawing the occupiers' attention to any infestations and advising when required on methods of treatment.

Although a general service of treatment is not given, it is found desirable in some cases affecting agricultural and commercial property, particularly where infestations affect more than one property, for a treatment service to be given upon charge on an "ad hoc" basis. As regards private houses, a free treatment service is given upon request.

Appreciation is expressed to Mr. J. W. Debenham, the Council's Rodent Operator, for his efficient services rendered during the year.

The Council's Rodent Operator carried out general inspections and treatments throughout the District as follows:-

	Type of Property				Total
	Council	Private	Agricultural	Other	
Number of properties in District.	6	6,231	632	186	7,055
Number of properties inspected.	6	221	309	83	619
Number of properties infested.	6	177	51	34	268
Number of properties treated.	6	171	26	30	233

In connection with the above tables as regards type of property, Council houses are included under column "private", the Council property referred to being refuse tips, sewage works, depots and the like.

The tables relate only to the number of properties inspected and/or treated and not to the number of inspections or visits. Treatments always involve several visits during the work and follow-up visits to ensure total clearance of infestation. The Council properties are visited regularly once a month and oftener if necessary.

The number of inspections and/or visits actually made were:-

Council properties	73
Dwelling houses (private)	654
Agricultural premises	409
Business and other premises	168

Total:- 1,304

As regards infestation of sewers, this is no problem as all are new. Periodically test baits are laid in the more vulnerable sections and should at any time a "take" be found then the whole of the particular system will be treated. So far no "takes" have been recorded in any of the Council sewers.

In addition to the service of Rodent Control, assistance was also given to the public in connection with other pests as follows:-

Wasps' nests destroyed	39
Treatments for flies	5
Treatments for fleas	9
Treatments for cockroaches	2
Disinfections	1

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

There are no premises in the District licensable under this Act.

HOUSING ACTS

Further progress was made with the Council's programme of slum clearance.

Number of houses demolished as a result of formal action	.....	10
Number of houses demolished by owners voluntarily	.....	9
Number of houses rendered fit as a result of formal action	.....	5
Number of houses rendered fit as a result of informal action	.....	11

Of the 10 houses demolished as a result of formal action, 3 were demolished in default by the Council and expenses recovered from the respective owners.

RENT ACT, 1957.

There was only one application received for a Certificate of Disrepair under the above Act, work being carried out by the owner immediately upon vacation by the tenant who was under notice to quit.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS FOR HOUSING

The House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, came into force on the 14th June, 1959, and introduced a new system of "standard grants" to supplement the existing system of "discretionary grants", at the same time making a number of changes in the latter.

The new grants became available only towards the cost of installing "standard amenities", i.e., a bath, a water closet, a wash hand basin, a hot water supply and a food store, in dwellings which lacked any of these amenities but differing from "discretionary grants" in that they are claimable as of right, subject to conditions. The amount of grant is one-half of the cost actually incurred on the works, subject to a maximum grant of £155.

The main changes in "discretionary grants" system are in the conditions, the conditional period being reduced from 20 years to 10 years, and the letting requirement being relaxed so that a property can be sold after 3 years from completion of improvements to another owner/occupier.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

Applications for discretionary grants continued to increase during the year, 38 proposals in respect of 52 houses being approved, bringing the grand total since inception of the scheme to 181 proposals for 274 houses. Of these, 209 properties had been completed by the end of the year, 41 during 1959.

The estimated cost of works shown below relates to works of improvement only and do not include the cost of incidental repairs. Such repairs, however, have to be effected to comply with the standard. Thus 41 houses during the year under this scheme were thoroughly repaired as well as improved, thus obviating any possible action under the repair sections of the Housing Acts.

It follows that since the inception of the Discretionary Improvement Grant Scheme, 209 houses have been made fit in all respects.

	During 1959	Up to 1959	Total
Number of formal approvals granted	38	143	181
Number of houses in approved applications	52	222	274
Number of houses in completed schemes	41	168	209
Estimated cost of works	£45,112	£123,053	£168,165
Amount of grant approved	£17,010	£58,109	£75,119
Average cost of work per house	£867	£554	£614
Average grant per house	£327	£262	£274

It will be noted that the average cost of work per house increased sharply during the year. This is accounted for, mainly, by the fact that of the 52 houses for which grants were approved, the cost of works for 10 were between £800-£1,000; for 10 between £1,000-£2,000; with 1 between £2,000-£3,000 and 1 over £3,000. These latter two were for conversions of stable blocks to individual dwellings.

Of the 274 houses in approved applications, 78 were for owner-occupiers, 187 for farms and estates, and 9 only for tenanted houses.

STANDARD GRANTS

There was a prompt response from the public to this new system of grants. For the period from 14th June, 1959, to 31st December, 1959, there were 44 applications, of which 36 received immediate approval. The total maximum grant applicable to the approved schemes amounted to £5,625, although in fact every application did not finally rank for a maximum grant as seen below.

It was noted that a number of standard grant schemes took longer over execution than discretionary grant schemes, this being accounted for by the fact that in these cases work was being done on the "do it yourself" principle by the owners at evenings and weekends. In all such cases so far completed, however, the quality of workmanship has been found entirely satisfactory.

Contrary to the discretionary grant scheme where a single application can cover a number of houses, a separate application for each house is necessary for standard grants, so that the number of applications and number of houses concerned are the same.

Applications	Maximum Grant applicable	Completed Schemes				
		Number	Maximum grant applicable	Total Cost	Grant paid	Savings on Maximum
<u>Submitted</u>						
44	£6,290					
<u>Approved</u>						
36	£5,625	6	£790	£1,438	£675	£115

Average Cost per house £240
Average maximum grant per house £131
Average actual grant per house £112

These averages are on the low side as 2 of the 6 completed schemes only qualified for a small grant, thus bringing down the overall average. Over a longer period, I anticipate that the average grant will be very near to the maximum applicable.

Of the 36 approved applications, 30 were for owner-occupiers, 5 for farms and estates and only 1 for a tenanted house.

PETROLEUM SPIRIT AND MIXTURES

The storage of petroleum spirit and mixtures containing petroleum spirit is subject to strict control by annual licence. All licences contain conditions based on the model code of the Home Office.

85 licences were issued and 1 new installation was inspected and tested. Routine visits were made to other existing installations. No infringements were found during the year.

I am indebted to the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. John Blackwell, M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.H., Chartered Municipal Engineer, for the following statistics relating to Building Byelaws and Planning, local authority housing, sewerage and public cleansing.

BUILDING BYELAWS AND PLANNING

The total number of plans deposited with the Council for building works and development was as follows:-

New private dwellings	... 160
Alterations and additions	... 74
Conversions and adaptations of buildings to dwellings	... 13
Domestic drainage	... 199
Domestic garages	... 83
Sheds and stores	... 8
Farm and other buildings	... 48
Planning applications only, i.e., electricity lines, outline applications, moveable dwellings etc.	... 344

Total number of plans deposited:-	929
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The number of new private dwellings completed by private enterprise during the year was 101.

There was a further reduction in the number of temporary building licences in force, i.e., 17, no new licences being issued during the year. These buildings are all regularly inspected with a view to maintenance in a good state of repair.

PUBLIC WORKS

HOUSING

The number of dwellings provided by the Council as at 31st December, 1959, was as follows:-

Pre-War dwellings, permanent	..... 62
Post-War dwellings, permanent	..... 742
Post-War dwellings, temporary	..... 116
Total number of dwellings:-	920

During the year no new permanent Council houses were completed.

SEWERAGE

Sewage received and treated at the Council's sewage works at Lindford was at the rate of 324,198 gallons per day. This figure shows a steady annual increase.

These works treat sewage from Bordon, Whitehill, Lindford, Headley, Grayshott and the Military Camp at Bordon.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

All public cleansing work is carried out by the Council's own vehicles and staff.

Refuse Collection

A general scheme of full refuse collection operates throughout the District. Weekly collections are made in the Parishes of Whitehill and Grayshott, the remainder being served fortnightly.

The Council also undertake a weekly collection of domestic refuse from the married quarters in the Bordon and Longmoor Military Camps, together with regular removal of refuse from unit incinerators (approximately 90 cubic yards per week).

The refuse collecting vehicles averaged a total of 3,864 miles per month, collecting an average per month of 2,714 cubic yards of refuse.

Disposal of refuse is by means of controlled tipping at various tips throughout the District. The main tip is on Council land at Headley.

Cesspool Emptying

Cesspools and septic tanks were emptied upon request by owners as follows:-

Private properties	....	1,272 loads
Council properties	....	1,491 loads
Total number of loads (750 galls approx)	....	<u>2,763</u>

Nightsoil Collection

Collections of nightsoil are made in defined areas of most Parishes, some twice weekly and some once weekly.

The cesspool and nightsoil vehicles averaged a total of 1,667 and 1,351 miles per month respectively.

Nightsoil collections decrease as new domestic drainage systems are installed and cesspool emptying increase accordingly.

Public Conveniences

The Council maintain public conveniences at Bordon and Grayshott.

Depots

The cleansing service vehicles operate from depots at the Council Offices in Alton and at the Sewage Works at Lindford.

